



**McHenry County Continuum of Care to End Homelessness**  
***"Working together to end homelessness in McHenry County"***

c/o The McHenry County Department of Planning and Development  
2200 North Seminary Avenue, Woodstock, IL 60098  
815-334-4089

**2019 Continuum of Care Prioritization and Ranking Policy**

1. To be eligible for prioritizing and ranking, all projects – new and renewal – must pass all facets of the application evaluation process including:

- a. All projects must meet all HUD eligibility criteria
- b. All projects must be HEARTH & CoC regulation compliant
- c. All projects must meet the application deadlines, as set by the McHenry County Continuum of Care to End Homelessness

*See the attached FY2019 HUD CoC NOFA Timeline*

- d. All projects must meet criteria outlined in the FY2019 NOFA

2. As determined by the FY19 CoC NOFA, the CoC Planning project will not be included in the ranking. CoC planning funds will not detract from direct service funds.

3. Ranking within tiers will be based on scores from the McHenry County Continuum of Care to End Homelessness which includes the scoring rubric and project performance for renewal projects. The Ranking Committee will also consider which projects will be most competitive in the CoC funding process based on HUD's HEARTH Act measures and HUD's policy priorities as outlined in the FY2018 NOFA.

4. The project scoring tool emphasizes projects that promote the HEARTH Act goals of ending homelessness and HUD's policy priorities as outlined in the FY19 NOFA. Measures that reflect HUD's expectations regarding project performance review, as outlined in the FY19 NOFA, are considered. Annual Performance Reports are used to measure project outcomes and performance.

- a. System Performance Measures
- b. Housing Stability
- c. Increasing or Maintaining Income
- d. Length of Stay

- e. Access to and enrollment in mainstream benefits
- f. Housing First model of service and housing delivery
- g. The extent to which the project serves sub-populations
- h. Cost effectiveness
- i. Severity of Service needs of clients served during program year
- j. Utilization Rates of beds
- k. Spend-down of funding, if a renewal
- l. Attendance at Full CoC Board meetings

5. All new project applications for new, first-time renewal, or bonus permanent housing dollars (PSH, RRH and TH-RRH) will be evaluated by the CoC Ranking Committee using a limited evaluation tool that is similar to the one used for renewal projects, but will be based on proposed numbers of clients served (meaning there will not be a score for past performance as there will not be past performance). A project presentation will glean the organization's capacity to carry out the project based on the proposed figures. New project applications for permanent housing bonus dollars will be most competitive if they align with HUD policy priorities, demonstrate the organizational capacity to administer federal grant funds, are able to serve households or individuals effectively, demonstrate a clear understanding of best practices in the delivery of the program model (PSH, RRH and TH-RRH), and adopt a housing first model of service delivery.

6. All new or bonus permanent housing projects will be ranked competitively with renewal projects to ensure the most effective use of CoC resources allocated to McHenry County

7. Projects required by HEARTH & the CoC regulation will be ranked in Tier 1 because the primary funding source for these projects is HUD CoC funding.

a. References available 24 CFR 578:

- i. HMIS – Homeless Management Information Systems Requirements
- ii. Centralized or coordinated assessment/entry system

8. A proposed project serving domestic violence survivors in a capacity involving permanent housing outcomes will be awarded bonus points due to the ability to reduce the overall homeless population in McHenry County.

9. The Ranking Workgroup shall score project applicants on their presentations and on responses to Workgroup questions. The presentation score will allow for up to 50 points based on a series of questions.

10. Organizations with similar renewal project types may combine these together for streamlining purposes. This will require the organization to submit both renewal projects and a new combined project so as to determine where in the ranking the project would fall.

11. Organizations must submit all project applications in E-snaps by 4:00pm CDT Friday, August 16, 2019. Failure to meet this timeline will result in a rejection of the project application.